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ditions of deposition are definite enough to arouse suspicion. Success in maintaining a navigable channel does not rest on the foretelling of locations where trouble is likely to ensue. It rests on locating the place where the river is most likely to maintain a channel through the detritus. This can only be known by carefully watching the tendency of the stream as it moves over the shoal during all its time of falling stage. Even then there is always the chance that the quantity of water may fall short of the minimum demands for navigation.

WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

THE ASCENT OF RUWENZORI.

The Duke of the Abruzzi lectured on Jan. 12 before the Royal Geographical Society of London on his recent expedition to the Ruwenzori range. King Edward VII was present. This was the first occasion on which a reigning British monarch had attended a session of the Society, though as Prince of Wales the present King had frequently been at the meetings. One of the fine photographs with which the Duke illustrated his paper in the *Geographical Journal* (Feb., 1907) is here reproduced. It shows some of the highest mountains which constitute the culminating portion of the Ruwenzori range.

At the outset the party lost the services of Captain Cagni, who was to have charge of the magnetic observations. Unfortunately, he was attacked with typhoid fever before reaching the mountains. Lieutenant Winspeare, who was to direct the meteorological and topographical observations, was also incapacitated by illness. The Duke's assistants included Dr. Major Cavalli Molinelli, physician, zoologist, and botanist; Signor Sella, photographer; Dr. Roccati, geologist; two Alpine guides and two head porters from Switzerland, an assistant photographer, a cook, and about 200 Waganda porters.

The neighbourhood of the mountains was reached on June 1, and about seven weeks were given to mountain-climbing, exploration, and surveying. The failure of previous attempts to reach the culminating points of this range may be attributed to the lack of mountaineering experience. The expert snow-climbers in the Abruzzi party had no difficulty in their ascents either on rock or ice, and the snow was always in good condition. The Duke has

named the massifs, calling a number of peaks after explorers, and has also given names to the peaks. He says:

I propose, therefore, to call Mount Stanley the mountain or massif that carries the five highest peaks—Margherita (16,816 feet), Alexandra (16,750 feet), Elena (16,388 feet), Savoia (16,340 feet), and Moebius (16,214 feet). To the second group in order of height, the Duwoni, seen from Ibanda, I give the name of Speke, in memory of the discoverer of the Ripon Falls, the origin of the Nile; and the highest peak of this massif I call, after the King of Italy, Vittorio Emanuele (16,080 feet); and the lower and more southern, seen from the lower Mobuku valley, I name after Sir H. Johnston (15,906 feet). To the third massif (Semper, Kiyanja, or Ngemwimi) I give the name of Mount Baker, in memory of the traveller who discovered Lake Albert and was the first to see these mountains, calling its highest point (15,988 feet) after the King of England, and the lower, to the west, we first climbed, Mount Semper (15,343 feet). The fourth massif I call Mount Emin, after the traveller who succeeded Stanley in this region; its highest points Umberto (15,807 feet) and Kraepelin (15,752 feet). The fifth massif I name Mount Gessi, after the Italian traveller, who first circumnavigated Lake Albert; and I name the two points of this group Yolanda (15,647 feet) and Böttgego (15,483 feet). To the sixth massif I give the name of Thomson, in honour of the traveller to whom we owe the progress of civilization in these countries,* naming its peaks Weismann (15,273 feet), Sella (15,286 feet), and Stairs (15,060 feet). For the point climbed by Dr. Wollaston, and thought by him to be Duwoni (15,286 feet) I propose the name of its climber; for the northern top (15,269 feet) that of Moore; the name of Cagni for the rock-peak opposite Bujongolo (14,826 feet).

I have left their native names to the valleys, torrents, and lakes, where these had any single name given them by the Bakonjo; where they differed, and in the case of all the valleys, lakes, and torrents on the Semliki slope, of which the Bakonjo know little, I have given no names.

I have called the passes we visited after Freshfield, Scott Elliot, Stuhlmann, Cavalli, and Roccati, leaving nameless the gap between the Yolanda Peak and the Portal Peaks, because I could not exactly determine its position. These passes range between 13,780 and 14,180 feet, except the Stuhlmann Pass, which is slightly lower.

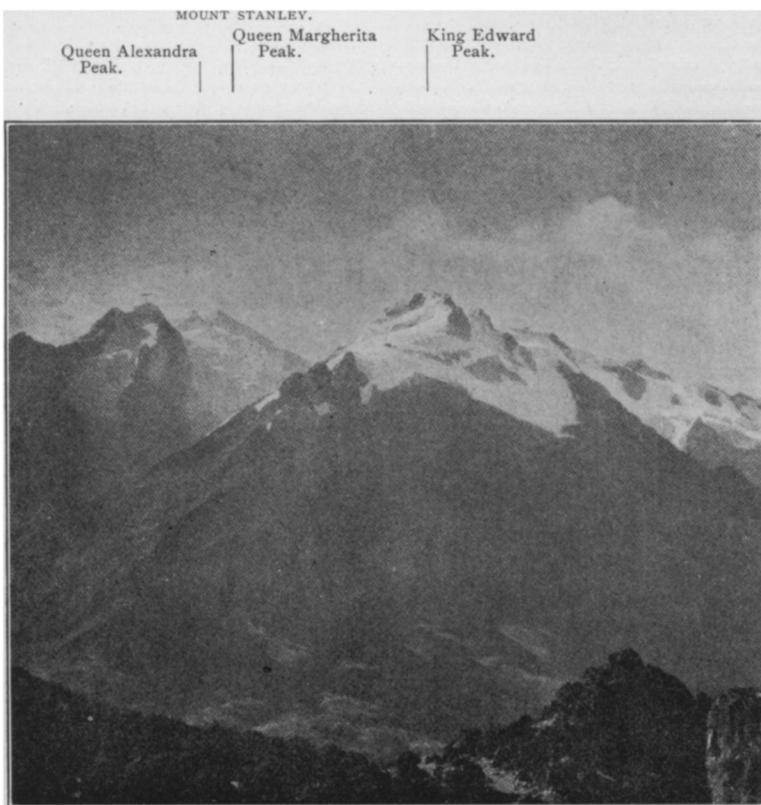
The watershed runs from the Weismann Peak over the Freshfield Pass to the King Edward Peak; follows the crest to the east as far as the Scott Elliot Pass, to climb over the summits of Mount Stanley, then by the Stuhlmann Pass to the Vittorio Emanuele Peak, whence by the Cavalli Pass to the Umberto Peak, and so by the Roccati Pass to the Böttgego and Yolanda summits. It then follows the ridge that drops from the Yolanda to the south-east to join the Portal Peaks, and from these turns again north-east.

The lowest point of glacier was 13,677 feet. All the glaciers show signs of receding. No glacier is of the first order, all being, without exception, of the secondary order, without tributaries, recalling the glaciers of Scandinavian type; but there are evidences of enormous glaciation in the Glacial epoch. There is no *névé*. The limit of perpetual snow is about 14,600 feet. The area permanently covered by snow has a radius of some five miles from its centre. The temperature upon the highest summits varied between a maximum of 42.8° Fahr. and a minimum of 26.6°. The chief difficulty experienced was the weather, which was scarcely ever clear. Even when the weather was fine, the distances in the views from the higher peaks were always more or less veiled by haze, which made it difficult to determine the direction of the valleys falling towards the Semliki.

The theory of volcanic origin for the range may be excluded. Only at one place were local traces found of basaltic veins. The dip of the strata is inclined up to 60°. The origin of the moun-

* As the Duke of the Abruzzi did not give his own name to any part of the Ruwenzori range, the President of the Royal Geographical Society later substituted for the name Mount Thomson the name Mount Luigi di Savoia.

tain group and of the high peaks of the central portion may be attributed (1) to an upheaval *en masse* of a portion of the archæan floor of Central Africa; (2) to a highly-accentuated ellipsoid of upheaval or anticlinal with strata more or less strongly tilted in the Ruwenzori group, an ellipsoid having its general direction north and south; and (3) to the presence in the heart of the group of amphibolites, diorites, diabases, and amphibolitic gneiss, well



THE HIGHEST PEAKS OF RUWENZORI.

adapted to resist denudation by surface agents, both physical and chemical, to which the gneisses and mica-schists of the outer ranges offer far less resistance.

The Duke of the Abruzzi and his companions succeeded in all the objects of their expedition, making an exact survey of the range, determining the height of its several summits, fixing the watershed, and bringing back, besides their maps, an admirable series of photographs by Signor Sella.